

## Message Text

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R 210024Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, CASC, CVIS, CPAS, SREF, PFOR, UR, US

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON REP LIST 17

REF: STATE 196701

FOLLOWING FOR EMBASSY'S INFORMATION IS CONTINGENCY PRESS  
GUIDANCE ON REP LIST 17 FOR USE BY DEPARTMENT.

Q. WHAT IS THE QUOTE REPRESENTATION LIST UNQUOTE WHICH THE  
WIRE SERVICES REPORT OUR AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW PRESENTED TO  
THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT?

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A. ON AUGUST 18 AMBASSADOR STOESSEL PRESENTED A LIST OF

PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN REFUSED SOVIET EXIT VISAS FOR THE UNITED STATES TO RESIDE HERE WITH RELATIVES. THE LIST CONTAINS ABOUT 650 NAMES IN 249 FAMILY UNITS. IT IS THE SEVENTEENTH IN A SERIES WHICH WE HAVE PRESENTED IN THE COURSE OF A NUMBER OF YEARS. THE PRECEDING LIST, REPRESENTATION LIST 16, WAS PRESENTED BY AMBASSADOR STOESSEL IN APRIL, 1974; IT CONTAINED ABOUT 800 NAMES IN ABOUT 275 FAMILY UNITS - TO DATE ABOUT 38 PER CENT OF THOSE PERSONS RECEIVED EXIT VISAS. MANY NAMES OF PERSONS WHO ARE REPEATEDLY REFUSED EXIT VISAS FOR THE US ARE CARRIED ON SUCCESSIVE LISTS.

Q. CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT SOME OF THE PERSONS ON THE LIST ARE US CITIZENS?

A. ABOUT TEN ARE DUAL US-SOVIET CITIZENS. THE SOVIETS DO NOT RECOGNIZE DUAL CITIZENSHIP SO UNDER SOVIET LAW THESE PERSONS ARE ONLY RECOGNIZED AS SOVIET CITIZENS. HOWEVER, WE ARE NOT ASKING THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES TO FORMALLY RECOGNIZE THAT ANYONE ON THE LIST IS A US CITIZEN - WE ARE JUST ASKING THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES TO GRANT THEM SOVIET EXIT VISAS SO THAT THEY CAN COME TO THE US.

Q. DOES THE CSCE SIGNING HAVE ANY SIGNIFICANCE OR RELEVANCE HERE?

A. THE FAMILY REUNIFICATION PROVISIONS OF THE CSCE ARE OF COURSE RELEVANT. IN LIGHT OF THE SIGNING OF THE CSCE FINAL ACT, WE HOPE THAT THERE WILL BE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN THE SOVIET ISSUANCE OF EXIT VISAS TO THE PERSONS ON OUR LIST. HOWEVER, WE WOULD HAVE PRESENTED REPRESENTATION LIST 17 WHETHER OR NOT THERE HAD BEEN A CSCE SIGNING - THE LIST IS ONE OF A SERIES IN AN EFFORT WE HAVE BEEN MAKING OVER A NUMBER OF YEARS.

Q. HOW MANY SOVIETS EMIGRATED TO THE US LAST YEAR?

A. IN THE 1974 CALENDAR YEAR OUR EMBASSY IN MOSCOW PROCESSED 1,029 SOVIETS WITH EXIT VISAS FOR THE UNITED STATES. OF THOSE, TEN WERE DUAL CITIZENS.

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Q. DOES THIS INCLUDE SOVIET JEWS WHO LEFT THE USSR WITH EXIT VISAS FOR ISRAEL AND SETTLED IN THE UNITED STATES INSTEAD?

A. NO. WE BELIEVE THAT ABOUT 4,000 SOVIET JEWS CAME TO THE UNITED STATES IN 1974.

Q. IS THE PROVISION IN THE CSCE FINAL ACT REGARDING REUNI-

FICATION OF FAMILIES ONE OF THOSE SUBJECT TO FURTHER BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS?

A. OUR INTERPRETATION IS THAT THERE ARE SOME - A FEW - PROVISIONS IN THE CSCE FINAL ACT WHICH SUGGEST FURTHER BILATERAL OR MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS, BUT THAT THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THE FINAL ACT'S PROVISIONS STAND BY THEMSELVES AND SHOULD NOW BE IMPLEMENTED. THE PROVISION ON REUNIFICATION OF FAMILIES DOES NOT REQUIRE FURTHER BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS, ALTHOUGH, OF COURSE, WE WILL CONTINUE TO TAKE UP INDIVIDUAL CASES BILATERALLY AS IN THE PAST.

NO QUESTIONS WERE ASKED AT AUG 20 PRESS BRIEFING. MAW

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